



Member Benefits

Important Dates

November 2023

- 13–17 American Education Week
- 14 Family Day
- 15 ESP Day
- 16 Educator for a Day
- 17 Substitute Day

2024

January

- 10 First Day of the Legislative Session
- 10 State of the State Address

March

- 2 NEA’s Read Across America
- 9 Last Day of the Legislative Session

May

- 6–10 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 7 National Teacher Day
- 8 National School Nurses Day

- TBA WVEA-Retired Annual Meeting
- TBA WVEA Delegate Assembly

Important Numbers

- | | |
|---|---|
| WVEA Headquarters
1.800.642.8261 | PEIA
1.888.680.7342
304.558.7850
peia.wv.gov |
| WVEA Fax
304.346.4325 | HealthSmart
304.340.0253
healthsmart.com |
| WVEA Help Center
1.866.568.WVEA
wvea.org | Humana (Medicare retirees)
1.800.783.4599 |
| Dept. of Education
1.833.627.2833
wvde.us | The Health Plan HMO
1.800.624.6961
healthplan.org |
| Retirement Board
1.800.654.4406
304.558.3570
wvretirement.com | CVS/Caremark
1.800.552.8159
caremark.com |
| Legislative Services
304.347.4836
wvlegislature.gov | NEA Member Benefits
1.800.637.4636
neamb.com |
| Governor’s Office
1.888.438.2731
304.558.2000
governor.wv.gov | Liberty Mutual
1.800.699.4311
libertymutual.com/wvea |

WVEA Executive Committee

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We are Stronger Together

The reasons the West Virginia Education Association exists are right in front of you—your students and colleagues throughout your county. We all want the same thing; the positive teaching and learning conditions essential for building and maintaining schools where educators and students thrive, the resources and opportunities students and educators need to succeed. A strong, active membership is the reason WVEA makes public schools great for every child. Our collective voice affords us the strength to do more together than we can by ourselves.

This Member Benefits Guide outlines just a few of the benefits that are exclusive to WVEA members. From professional growth and support, to amplifying your voice in public policy debates that affect you and your classroom, to providing perks like advice on college debt reduction, WVEA has your future in mind.

Learn More and Belong Today!

Go to wvea.org/MemberBenefits or scan QR Code to the right.



Keeping You Informed

WVEA is your best source of accurate, timely information on all issues related to public schools, including working conditions, regulations and policies. Here's how we keep you informed and answer your questions.

- ◆ Our one-stop shop website: wvea.org
- ◆ Our award winning publication: *WVEA Today*
- ◆ Our electronic newsletter: *Legislative Update*
- ◆ Our Help Center: Call **866.568.WVEA**
- ◆ Our social media platforms: @IamWVEA on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube

Popular Discounts Enjoyed by Members

- ◆ **1800Flowers.com** – NEA members enjoy 20% savings every day on flowers, plants, gift baskets, gourmet foods, and more!
- ◆ **NEA® Auto Buying Program** – Savings on new and used cars at certified dealers nationwide.
- ◆ **Pet Insurance** – The only pet insurance plan endorsed by The American Veterinary Medical Association Group is good for any licensed veterinarian and provides a straight 80% reimbursement after deductible. Includes emergency care and wellness options for your furry friend.
- ◆ **NEA Magazine Service** – Get two free annual magazine subscriptions. Plus, save up to 85% off the cover price of over 800 popular magazines with the choice of seven payment options.
- ◆ **NEA® Vehicle Protection Program** – Extended vehicle protection policy.
- ◆ **NEA Wireless Discount** on AT&T cell phone charges.
- ◆ **GE Appliance Store** provides member-only discounts at this full-service online shopping site.

Find details on these benefits and more at wvea.org/MemberBenefits.

Resources to Help You Succeed

Start the year off right with resources like the New Teacher Handbook. WVEA offers useful resources and opportunities, advice, and ideas.

- ◆ **Certification Process** – It's your professional responsibility to keep your license and certification current and up-to-date. We have reminders and recommendations.
- ◆ **Starting It Off Right** – Getting your school year off to a good start is important for you and your students. We'll show you how to do it right.
- ◆ **First Rule: Set Rules** – Classroom discipline starts and ends with the teacher and our resources outline ideas and strategies from experienced educators.
- ◆ **Managing Your Time** – You've discovered (no doubt) your teaching duties demand a lot of time. Perhaps you feel there's no time left after you schedule all your classes and assigned activities. The best way to gain control is by discovering how your time is spent.
- ◆ **Know Your Rights** – You know you are a good teacher. Your \$1 million liability policy is a great safety net – so is knowing and understanding your professional rights as an educator.
- ◆ **Social Media & Your Digital Identity** – You may have forgotten that unfortunate photo or odd interaction but the Internet didn't. It may be time to scrub your digital identity. See the steps to make sure your digital and professional identity are as professional as possible.
- ◆ **S.O.S. = Survival of Substitutes** – You're not planning on it but someday you will miss a day of school. Prepare now for that day – and for that substitute.

Other topics include parent-teacher conferences, evaluations, money management, stress reduction and habits to stay healthy.

Find more at wvea.org/TeachingLearning.

Resources for Career & Life

WVEA provides you the resources and opportunities you, as an educator, need to succeed, both personally and professionally.

- ◆ **WVEA Graduate Courses** – Discounted courses (up to 9 credits per year for \$200) for degree completion, license renewal and salary advancement.
wvea.org/graduate_courses
- ◆ **WVEA/NEA edCommunities** – Resources for online professional practice and learning where educators connect.
- ◆ **Works-4-Me Resource Library** – Members nationwide share teaching tips.
- ◆ **School Me Podcast** – Get all the advice, insight and ideas you need from those who have “been there, done that” in an easy-to-navigate format.
- ◆ **Breath-by-Breath, Step-by-Step** – Manage stress at school with our easy-to-use guide.
- ◆ **Resources to Connect with Every Student** – Teaching techniques, tips and resources by teachers, for teachers.

Find details on these benefits and more at wvea.org/MemberBenefits.

Tools to Improve Your Finances

- ◆ **Invest Smartly and Safely** – Get more for your money, and drive higher returns by following simple strategies.
- ◆ **5 Minute Retirement Checkup** – Find out quickly if you're on track and, if not, what you need to do.
- ◆ **Loan Forgiveness & Refinancing** – Cool tools to manage student loan debt and determine eligibility for federal repayment and forgiveness programs.
- ◆ **Personal Finance** – 8 steps that improve your financial wellness.

Savings to Stretch Your Budget

- ◆ **Expect More From Your Wallet** – Get a cash rewards bonus offer and earn cash rewards automatically with a Cash Rewards Credit Card.
- ◆ **Auto Buying Program** – On average, members save \$3,279 off MSRP on new cars. Save on used cars, too.
- ◆ **Finance Large Expenses** – Use the personal loans to pay for medical bills, home improvements, weddings and more.
- ◆ **Educator Exclusives** – From classroom supplies to home goods, special offers are available for teachers like you.

Find details on these benefits and more at wvea.org/MemberBenefits.

Do You Need a Lawyer?

The WVEA/NEA Attorney Referral Program is a result of the group's purchasing power of the three million NEA members throughout the country. It provides you with free consultation (up to 30 minutes twice a year) with one of the Referral Program attorneys, and considerably reduced rates for legal services you might need.

Who is eligible?

All active, life, education support or retired NEA members and, at the request of the member, his or her spouse and dependent children.

What are the services?

Each eligible member is entitled to two free consultation sessions of up to 30 minutes each on any topic (except income tax preparation) during each program year. If a consultation leads to follow-up legal services of at least one billable hour, or equivalent services at a flat fee, it will not be counted as one of the consultations to which you are entitled that year.

If you decide to use the services of an Attorney Referral Plan, the attorney's regular fees will be discounted 30 percent if the problem falls into one of the following "core areas" and the attorney has indicated he/she is qualified in the area:

- ◆ Real Estate
- ◆ Wills and Estates
- ◆ Domestic Relations
- ◆ Consumer Protection
- ◆ Traffic Violations

Learn more at wvea.org/AttorneyReferral.

To obtain a complete copy of the WVEA Legal Services Plan and the three-part legal defense coverage, visit the "Legal Services" section of the WVEA website (wvea.org). If you have additional questions or concerns, contact the WVEA Legal Services at **866.568.WVEA (9832)**.

WVEA Attorney Referral Program

Dittmar, Taylor & Makricostas, PLLC

320 Penco Road, PO Box 2827, Weirton, WV 26062

Phone: (304) 723-9670

Attorneys: Dean G. Makricostas & Daniel P. Taylor
(Real Estate, Wills, Domestic, Consumer, Traffic, Other)

Giggenbach Legal, PLLC

PO Box 764, 154 Pleasant St., Morgantown, WV 26507

Phone: (304) 581-6460

Email: bader@giggenbachlegal.com

Attorney: Bader C. Giggenbach
(Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice, Domestic Relations,
Employment Law, Oil & Gas)

Katz Working Family Law Firm

The Security Building

Suite 1106 • 100 Capitol Street, Charleston, WV 25301

Phone: (304) 342-5579

E-mail: ajk792000@yahoo.com

Attorney: Andrew J. Katz
(Employment, Criminal Defense, Adoptions)

Law Office of Lisa A. Green

PO Box 506, Shepherdstown, WV 25443-0506

Jefferson County

Phone: (304) 907-0771

Email: greenlalaw@gmail.com

(Domestic Relations, Consumer Protection)

Neiswonger & White Law Offices

409 Morton Avenue, Moundsville, WV 26041

Phone: (304) 843-1714

Email: eden@nwlawoffice.com

Attorneys: David C. White & Kevin L. Neiswonger
(Criminal Law, Divorce, Estate Work, Oil & Gas,
Employment Law)

White Law Office

604 Sixth Street, Moundsville, WV 26041

Phone: (304) 845-7008

Email: twhite@lawyer.com

Attorney: Thomas E. White
(Divorce & Family Law, Real Estate, Oil & Gas, Criminal Law,
Wills, Deeds)

William C. Brewer

PO Box 4206, Morgantown, WV 26504-4206

Phone: (304) 291-5800

Attorney: William C. Brewer
(Real Estate, Wills, Domestic)

NOTE: You should not hesitate to discuss fees with your attorney when you first meet with him or her. Total attorney fees will depend on the number of hours the attorney works on your problem.

Retirement on the horizon?

Join WVEA-Retired and stay involved! WVEA-Retired is a statewide association that provides opportunities to continue your advocacy for students and public schools. West Virginia public schools and educators face challenges that require the resolve and support of its members—both active and retired. Join WVEA-Retired and provide your support, your wisdom, and your leadership to forge a path forward.

WVEA-Retired provides a wealth of discount programs, including liability insurance if you substitute, long-term care, life, auto and homeowner's insurance, retirement income investments, discounts on magazines and car rentals, and other special NEA/WVEA Member Benefits. Joining WVEA-Retired gives you opportunities to network with like-minded colleagues and to remain engaged.

The WVEA-Retired annual membership can be purchased for \$50 per year or a lifetime membership is a one-time fee of \$400. Dues also include an additional \$10.00 per year for local dues.

To learn more, visit wvea.org/wvea-r.



WVEA

Standing Together for Public Schools

West Virginia Education Association

1558 Quarrier Street, Charleston, WV 25311

1.800.642.8261 | 304.346.5315 | Fax: 304.346.4325

Help Center: 1.866.568.WVEA | wvea.org